

MINUTES
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2011
TRAINING ROOM
3300 CAPITOL AVE., BUILDING B
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA
7:15 P.M.

1. **SECRETARY CALL FOR QUORUM**

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

Welcome Commissioner Chui-Wa (Ripple) Leung and Introduce Commissioners

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Davé, La, Leung, Salwan, Vuppala, Walsh, Chair Hoffman, and Vice Chair Smith

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** of the November 15, 2010 meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Salwan and seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the minutes from November 15, 2010. The motion was approved and so ordered with Commissioners Vuppala, Walsh, La, and Davé abstaining.

5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

6. **WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

6.1 Commissioner Emil DeGuzman from San Francisco Human Relations Commission contacted staff regarding the California Association of Human Relations Training Conference that is being held on February 7, 2011 in Los Angeles.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner La announced the BAWAR Training that will be happening in Fremont at Washington Hospital. The training begins in February meeting twice a week for 10 weeks.

8. **CONSENT ITEMS** (Routine items requiring no discussion; any Commissioner or member of the public can ask for a consent item to be moved to the regular agenda to allow for discussion)

8.1 None

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 HRC Work Plan

Commissioners reviewed current work plan. Commissioner Davè reminded staff to change the title of the Visibility Committee to Community Outreach on the work plan chart.

10. NEW BUSINESS (Items on which the Commission has not yet had an agendaized discussion or taken action).

10.1 Vote for 2011 HRC Chairperson and Vice-Chair

A motion was made by Commissioner Davè and seconded by Commissioner La to accept the Committee's nomination of Beth Hoffman as Chair and Joe Smith as Vice Chair. The motion was approved and so ordered.

10.2 Recognition of Former Commissioner Moina Shaiq

In recognition of Moina Shaiq's contribution to the HRC, the commission presented her with a certificate of appreciation.

10.3 "Surrender to Kindness" a book written by Joseph David Osman

Suzanne Shenfil, Director of Human Services, spoke to the Commissioners about exploring the idea of working with the Afghan Community in hosting a book talk with the author, Joseph David Osman.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walsh and seconded by Commissioner Salwan to explore inviting the author, Joseph David Osman, and hosting a book talk in conjunction with Afghan community groups which might also be engaged in the process. The motion was approved and so ordered.

Staff will talk to publicist and get a time line and then set up a time to have tea with the Afghan organizations to discuss plans.

The project was referred to the Community Outreach Committee that currently consists of Commissioners Davè and Vuppala, and Chair Hoffman. Vice-Chair Smith volunteered to be engaged in this activity. Suzanne Shenfil will contact the committee after she speaks with the publicist.

10.4 Family Justice Opportunity

Commissioner La spoke to the Commission about the possibility to increase access to family justice services in southern Alameda County. However, given the current county budget restraints, La said he will have a conversation with the District Attorney regarding the current state of the proposed effort and he will update the HRC if he obtains further info.

10.5 City of Fremont Social Services Grant Site Visits

Leticia Leyva spoke to the commission about the upcoming grantee site visits and requested Commissioners select site visits they want to attend.

11. COMMISSION REFERRALS

11.1 None

12. STANDING AND ADHOC COMMITTEE REPORTS (Oral reports on relevant meetings/events)

12.1 Community Dialogue and Resource Sharing Committee

No update

12.2 Strengthening Fremont Serving Non Profits Committee

Commissioner Davé has replaced Commissioner Watanuki on the Strengthening Fremont Serving Non Profits committee.

Commissioner Davé gave an update on the CAEB meeting held at the Family Resource Center. He informed the Commissioners that any Commissioner interested in participating in the FFRC Strategic Planning Process for 2011-2016 can do so and should call Judy Schwartz at 574-2003 or email her at jschwartz@fremont.gov.

12.3 Community Outreach Committee

Commissioner Davé gave an update on the Community Outreach Committee. Commissioner Davé suggested that an Inter-Commission Council be created, where one person from each Commission would come together and share what their commission is doing.

Commissioner Davé gave an update on the City Internship Project. Staff decided to postpone the internship project until the summer.

Commissioner Hoffman gave an update on the film series and will be emailing staff a list of movies to for distribution to Commission.

Commissioners discussed bringing art down from Ohlone to someplace like the Hub and creating a Community Art Wall so people can see art without having to go to Ohlone College. Further discussion is needed regarding the location of the art project.

12.4 Advocacy Committee

No update.

12.5 Other Commission Updates

Commissioner Raj Salwan informed the Commission that this meeting would possibly be his last as he has been recommended by the Mayor to be appointed to the Planning Commission.

13. STAFF REPORTS

13.1 Attendance Summary (**Attachment 13.1**)

13.2 Calendar (**Attachment 13.2**) of HRC regular/special meetings and events.

13.3 Status of Commission Website (**Attachment 13.3**)

14. REFERRALS TO STAFF

The Commission would like to put on the Agenda for next meeting a discussion about starting a Human Relations Award. The Award would recognize individuals who have made outstanding voluntary contributions for the common good and/or sustainable change in the community and who serve the community with distinction in the pursuit of equality, justice, and human rights for all citizens. Demonstrating this pursuit could include; organizing, promoting and participating in community activities related to human relations issues, and/or demonstrating positive leadership in human relations.

15. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Walsh and seconded by Commissioner La to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and so ordered.